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INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-13 OIC-04 AECE-00 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1102

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3204

USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 3732

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-81

TAGS: PARM, PFOR

SUBJECT: MBFR-AUGUST 7 SPC DISCUSSION

SUMMARY: INITIAL SPC DISCUSSION AUGUST 7 OF MBFR ON BASIS AUGUST 3 COUNCIL DECISION (USNATO 3687) PRODUCED AGREEMENT THAT TRADITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ASSURING MILITARY INPUT WOULD BE FOLLOWED AND AGREEMENT TO CONCENTRATE ON SECTION 2 (NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL) IN US MANDATE (USNATO 3644). UK AND FRG MADE PROPOSALS ON ROLE OF MBFR WORKING GROUP IN BACKUP WORK FOR NAC AND SPC. UK REP CIRCULATED PAPER (SEPTTEL) ON MEASURING COMBAT CAPABILITY WHICH HE PROPOSED BE STUDIED BY WORKING GROUP. SPC WILL MEET AGAIN AUGUST 9 ON MBFR CONCENTRATING ON PARA 19 OF US PAPER OF JULY 27, AT WHICH TIME WE WILL NEED WASHINGTON'S GUIDANCE ON WORK PROGRAM PROPOSED FOR MBFR WORKING GROUP. THERE WAS CONSENSUS, INCLUDING UK REP, THAT SPC SHOULD COMPLETE WORK NO LATER THAN FIRST WEEK IN SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN (KASTL) SUGGESTED THAT COMMITTEE AGREE ON MEANS TO ASSURE MILITARY ADVICE FOR FUTHER WORK AND ON WORK SECRET

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PROGRAM ITSELF. ON FIRST SUBJECT, KASTL SUGGESTED THAT EXISTING PROCEDURES WHEREBY MILITARY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE SITS IN ON MEETINGS UNDER TERMS OF REFERENCE AGREED IN 1970 SHOULD BE ADEQUATE FOR PRESENT WORK. INPUTS FROM SACEUR COULD

BE PRESENTED THROUGH MC REP. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT ASYG HUMPHREYS WOULD SIT IN ON MEETINGS. COMMITTEE ACCEPTED THESE PROPOSALS.

2. KASTL NOTED THAT BASIC ISSUE ON WORK PROGRAM WAS WHETHER COMMITTEE WOULD CONCENTRATE FIRST ON DEVELOPING NEGOTIATING POSITION, AS PROPOSED BY UNITED STATES, OR WOULD WORK MORE OR LESS CONCURRENTLY ON NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL AND NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, AS PROPOSED BY UK. US REP REITERATED OUR VIEW THAT NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL SHOULD BE GIVEN FIRST PRIORITY AND NOTED THAT COUNCIL HAD BEEN IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS APPROACH AT AUGUST 3 MEETING. HE THEN CIRCULATED OUTLINE FOR ALLIED AGREEMENT ON NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL PER PARA 19 OF US PAPER OF AUGUST 27 (STATE 146712). US REP ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT US PAPER OF JULY 27 WOULD SERVE AS BASIS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF OVERALL ALLIED POSITION, IN LINE WITH COMMENTS BY SEVERAL DELEGATIONS AT NAC MEETING AUGUST 3.

3. UK REP (THOMSON) AGREED THAT ALLIES SHOULD WORK AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE TOWARD DEVELOPING OVERALL POSITION AND INDICATED READINESS US MANDATE AS BASIS FOR THIS WORK. HE RECALLED UK POSITION THAT SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF US MANDATE WERE INSEPARABLE AND ASKED THAT US, UK AND BELGIAN PAPERS BE GIVEN EQUAL STATUS. IN VIEW CONSIDERABLE OVERLAP BETWEEN THREE PAPERS, THOMSON PROPOSED THAT INTERNATIONAL STAFF, IN CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THREE DELEGATIONS CONCERNED, DO PAPER WHICH WOULD AMOUNT TO FOUR-COLUMN PRESENTATION, WITH FIRST COLUMN CONTAINING COMMON ELEMENTS AND ADDITIONAL THREE COLUMNS INDICATING POINTS ON WHICH THREE PAPERS DIVERGE. THIS WOULD, HE SAID, BE VERY USEFUL IN OBTAINING GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS. FRG, BELGIAN, TURKISH, AND ITALIAN REPS SUPPORTED BRITISH PROPOSAL. US REP SAID WE COULD GO ALONG WITH UK PROPOSAL PROVIDED FRAMEWORK FOR IS PAPER WAS ALONG LINES OF PAPER HE JUST CIRCULATED BASED ON PARA 19 OF US PAPER OF JULY 27. HE WAS SUPPORTED IN THIS PROPOSAL BY CANADIAN REP, AND UK REP DID NOT OBJECT.

4. ON QUESTION OF WHETHER ALLIES SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPING
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NEGOTIATING POSITION OR NEGOTIATING STRATEGY, NORWEGIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES WORK SEQUENTIALLY, MOVING FROM NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL TO NEGOTIATING STRATEGY. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT TWO WERE MIXED AND THAT ELEMENTS OF NEGOTIATING STRATEGY WOULD DOUBTLESS ARISE DURING DEVELOPMENT OF NEGOTIATING PROPOSAL. US REP AGREED WITH NORWEGIAN SUGGESTION, AS DID UK REP, LATTER ON CONDITION THAT HE WOULD BE FREE TO RAISE ASPECTS OF NEGOTIATING STRATEGY WHENEVER HE WISHED. ON BASIS ABOVE DISCUSSION, CHAIRMAN AGREED THAT IS WOULD DO SYNOPSIS PAPER FOLLOWING FOUR-COLUMN FORMAT, WHICH HE SAID HE HOPED TO HAVE READY BY AUGUST 10. HE PROPOSED THAT COMMITTEE DISCUSS PAPER, EVEN ON UNINSTRUCTED BASIS, AT AUGUST 13 MEETING.

5. FRG REP (BOSS) CIRCULATED FOLLOWING PROPOSAL ON WORK PROGRAM

FOR MBFR WORKING GROUP, NOTING THAT ITEMS WERE LISTED IN ORDER OF PRIORITY WHICH BONN BELIEVED WORKING GROUP SHOULD FOLLOW.

- COMMON DATA BASE;
- MEASURES PROPOSED IN THE US PAPER OF 27 JULY 1973
(PRE-REDUCTION CONSTRAINTS, CONSTRAINTS, NON-CIRCUMVENTION)
INCLUDING THEIR FIELDS OF APPLICATION WITH RESPECT TO AREAS AND FORCES;
- QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE VERIFICATION OF MEASURES AGREED DURING THE FIRST NEGOTIATION PHASE, ESPECIALLY OF THEIR FIELDS OF APPLICATION AGAIN WITH RESPECT TO AREAS AND FORCES;
- YARDSTICK FOR REDUCTIONS: COMBINATION OF COMBAT CAPABILITY AND STRENGTH OF FORCES (REDUCTIONS IN THE FORM OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF UNITS OR THEIR THINNING-OUT)
- ASYMMETRIES IN THE MILITARY SITUATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE;
THE MILITARY ASSESSMENT OF ARRANGEMENTS CONCERNING THE LEAVING BEHIND OF THE EQUIPMENT OF WITHDRAWN UNITS;

6. MC REP (ADMIRAL POSER) SAID HE THOUGHT WORKING GROUP COULD COMPLETE WORK ON TOPICS OUTLINED BY FRG REP EARLY IN SEPTEMBER. THOMSON SAID LONDON BELIEVED MBFR WORKING GROUP WOULD HAVE TO BE IN "MORE OR LESS CONTINUOUS SESSION" UP TO SEPTEMBER 1 AND HE SAID LONDON WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEND ADDITIONAL EXPERTS FOR THESE MEETINGS. THOMSON THEN CIRCULATED PAPER ON COMBAT CAPABILITIES (SEPTTEL) WHICH HE PROPOSED BE EXAMINED BY MBFR WORKING GROUP. ON FRG PROPOSAL, THOMSON REFERRED TO UK PERMREP'S JULY 5 PROPOSAL FOR MBFR WORKING GROUP ROLE IN DEVELOPING MBFR POSITION (USNATO 3232 AND EWRYL WHICH HE NOTED HAD BEEN ACCEPTED
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BY COUNCIL AT JULY 11 MEETING
(SEE USNATO 3311). THOMSON POINTED OUT SUBSTANTIAL OVERLAP BETWEEN FRG PROPOSAL PRESENTED TODAY AND UK VIEW ON MBFR WORKING GROUP'S ROLE AND SUGGESTED THAT WORKING GROUP GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO WORK ON DATA BASE AND COMBAT CAPABILITY.

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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 3205
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7. CANADIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT IN VIEW TIME PRESSURE, MBFR WORKING GROUP SHOULD FOCUS ATTENTION ON SUBJECTS AS THEY RELATED TO OUTLINE CIRCULATED BY US REP, AVOIDING GENERALITIES. HE WAS SUPPORTED BY FRG REP. US REP STATED HE WOULD REFER FRG AND UK PAPERS TO WASHINGTON FOR GUIDANCE BUT COMMENTED THAT US REDUCTION PROPOSAL WAS DESIGNED TO MINIMIZE DATA BASE PROBLEMS. SPC WILL RETURN TO THIS ISSUE AUGUST 9 AT WHICH TIME WE WILL NEED WASHINGTON'S GUIDANCE ON UK AND FRG PROPOSALS REGARDING ASSIGNMENT OF STUDIES TO MBFR WORKING GROUP.

8. ITALIAN REP CIRCULATED COMMENTS ON UK MBFR PAPER (SEE SEPTTEL) AND TURKISH REP ADVISED THAT ANKARA HAD BASICALLY SAME PROBLEM WITH UK PAPER AS TURKISH PERMREP EXPRESSED AT AUGUST 3 COUNCIL MEETING WITH REFERENCE TO US PAPER, I.E., IMPACT ON THE FLANKS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE INTRODUCTION OF THIRD OPTION INTO ALLIED POSITION.

9. COMMENT: WE HAVE URGED BELGIANS, WHO HAVE NOT YET COMMENTED FORMALLY ON US PAPER, TO CONSULT WITH US PRIVATELY TOMORROW, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, IN EFFORT REACH AGREEMENT ON BASIS
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US PROPOSAL. WE HAVE MAINTAINED CLOSE CONTACT WITH THOMSON (UK) AS REQUESTED STATE 132826, AND PLAN CONSULT WITH HIM ON MORNING AUGUST 9 TO SEE HOW MUCH OF UK SUBSTANTIVE POSITION CAN BE MARRIED WITH US PROPOSALS. WHILE CONTINUED EMPHASIS BY NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS ON ROLE OF MBFR WORKING GROUP CAUSES CONCERN, WE BELIEVE THAT ALL DELEGATIONS HAVE ACCEPTED FACT THAT SPC MUST COMPLETE ITS WORK BY SEPTEMBER 1, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHAT MBFR WORKING GROUP CAN ACCOMPLISH BY THAT DATE. FRG REP MADE THIS POINT AT TODAY'S MEETING AND UK REP AGREED PRIVATELY PRIOR TO MEETING THAT HE WOULD NOT PROPOSE THAT MBFR WORKING GROUP'S PROGRESS SHOULD BE CONDITION FOR SPC'S WORK. ON THIS BASIS, WE BELIEVE FRG PROPOSAL FOR MBFR WORKING GROUP'S IMMEDIATE TASKS IS ACCEPTABLE. UK PROPOSAL TO ENTRUST COMBAT CAPABILITY TO WORKING GROUP MAY BE A PROBLEM, BUT IT COULD ALSO PRESENT OPPORTUNITY TO BURY COMBAT CAPABILITY AS VIABLE CONCEPT FOR NEGOTIATIONS BY DEMONSTRATING ITS INHERENT COMPLEXITY.
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